

January 9, 2022

**Sunday After The Epiphany of the Lord
(First Sunday in Ordinary Time)**

The Baptism of the Lord

Feast



Jesus' Baptism

Makes Us All God's Beloved

God's manifestation of his power in his Son becomes visible at the Jordan where the baptism of Jesus reveals the unique relationship among the Trinity. A voice came from heaven, *You are my beloved son; with you I am well pleased.* God in claiming Jesus as *my beloved*, makes us also God's children in name and in truth.

MASS INTENTIONS

Thursday, January 13
4:30 p.m. Cynthia Baca
Saturday, January 15
4:30 p.m. Earlene O'Brien
Sunday, January 16
8:00 a.m. Edward Jurek

Individual Confessions in Moulton and Praha

- Available anytime by appointment. Call the office.
- On Fridays in the Family Room after Mass in Moulton.
- On Thursdays after the 4:30 p.m. Mass in Praha.
- During Advent/Christmas season and in Lent.

Full, Conscious and Active Participation in the Liturgy

Next weekend is *The Second Sunday in Ordinary Time*. Prepare for the liturgy by reflecting on these passages from your Bible.

First Reading: Isaiah 62:1-5

Responsorial Psalm: 96

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:4-11

Gospel: John 2:1-11



**The Sanctuary Light
will be lit this week
in memory of Earlene O'Brien.**

WELCOME

We welcome Fr. Paul Raaz to St. Mary's. Fr. Raaz will celebrate the weekend Masses at St. Joseph's Church, Moulton and St. Mary's Church, Praha during the month of January. Thursday Masses - Fr. Isaac Maunger.

2021 DIOCESAN SERVICES APPEAL

2021 Assessment	\$8,710.00
Contributions So Far	\$ 7,700.00
Amount Yet to be Contributed	\$ 1,010.00

We thank all those who have contributed towards our D.S.A. assessment so far. We are counting on all who have not yet contributed to the fund so far to do their part so we can pay off our debt to the bishop.

**St. Mary's Restoration Endowment Fund
Maintaining & Preserving Matička Praha**

We thank the following for their recent contributions:

Anonymous Donor - \$50

ALTAR SOCIETY NEWS



Altar Society Membership Drive

The Altar Society is accepting members for 2022. All men and women of the parish are encouraged to join. The dues are \$5.00 per person. The activities the society supports are Praha Pancake Sunday, the cake walk at the Praha Picnic, a Thanksgiving bake sale, celebrating baptisms and graduations, decorating the church for various seasons, selling cookbooks, providing altar flowers at miscellaneous times throughout the year, and providing items needed for the altar. If you would like to join, please provide the following information: Name, address, phone number, email address and date of birth. You may drop your details and check for \$5.00 payable to the Praha Altar Society, in the collection basket or mail it to:

Tracie Holub
1618 State Hwy 71 #123
LaGrange, TX 78945

Altar Society Meeting Sunday – January 30

The Praha Altar Society will hold a meeting on Sunday, January 30, 2022 in the St. Mary's School House, following the 8:00 a.m. Mass.

Additional Christmas Flower Donations

In memory of Irene & Milton Marek, Sr.

REFLECTION

Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11 Psalm 104 Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7
Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

The Baptism of the Lord



The feast of the Baptism of the Lord marks the end of the Christmas season. Tomorrow we enter into Ordinary Time and hear the beginning of Christ's ministry on earth.

Today, however, we ponder Baptism – Christ's and our own. The scripture readings summarize the themes of the entire Advent-Christmas season. The voice announces the future events as associated with John the Baptist. The gospel passage from St. Luke moves us from looking forward to the coming of the Messiah to the fulfillment of God's promise.

Jesus's baptism by John clarifies the respective roles and identities of John and Jesus. John's role was preparatory and temporary. He offered the prelude to the promise that would be fulfilled by Jesus. As God's beloved Son and servant with whom God was well pleased, Jesus would exercise the role of Christ and baptize with Spirit and fire. After his baptism, Jesus' ministry began in earnest and John's came to an end (Luke 3:20).

Jesus would also allow himself to be immersed in the baptism of suffering and death. Through these saving actions, all who are baptized in Jesus' name enter fully into his life and his death.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



January 10 – Edward Brautigam
January 11 – Brandy Bosl



Rosary every Wednesday at 9:00 a.m. Come join a group of church ladies at the Zdravas Maria Plaza to pray.

St. Joseph's Pancake Sunday Next Sunday



At The Social Center

The January St. Joseph's Pancake Sunday will be held at St. Joseph's Social Center in Moulton. Join your sister parish for a delicious breakfast, and fellowship. All are welcome.

LOOKING AHEAD LITURGICALLY



ORDINARY TIME - CYCLE C

Each year of the three-year Liturgical Cycle, (A. B. C.) is dedicated to one of the synoptic Gospels, (Matthew, Mark and Luke). This year we are in Cycle C. We read from Luke's Gospel. Luke is an exquisite storyteller, with a keen eye for deep characters, pungent storylines, poignant ironies, and heartwarming endings. Luke's Gospel contains certain features that the other Gospel accounts omit or mention only in passing. Luke alone gives us the stories of Jesus' infancy narrative.

Overview of Ordinary Time During The Winter Sundays One - Five

On the First Sunday of Ordinary Time (that time in the Liturgical Year when we are not celebrating a special season like Advent, Christmas or Lent) we celebrate Jesus' baptism. After the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, we continue the celebration of Ordinary Time. In these Sundays, we will witness the beginnings of Jesus' ministry. We will hear of the call to discipleship and the paradoxes and difficulties that will be encountered in the proclamation of the reign of God.

The Lectionary

The First Readings for these Sundays deal with "ordinary" life. On the Third Sunday, there is the liturgical assembly with a reading from the law of the Lord led by Ezra, the priest and scribe, after the return from exile. On the Fourth and Fifth Sundays, we hear of the call of the prophets Jeremiah, a very young man when called, and Isaiah, who received his call while worshipping in the Temple.

The Second Readings are from Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians, a community graced with many spiritual gifts. On the Second through Fourth Sundays, we hear Paul's instructions concerning the proper use of, and attitude toward, these gifts. The reading for the Fifth Sunday is the earliest account of the Resurrection of Christ from the dead.

The Gospels. On the Second Sunday we hear the Gospel of the wedding at Cana where Jesus changed water into wine – in St. John's Gospel, the first of the "signs" (miracles) that Jesus performed, manifesting his glory and power as the Son of God. The Third through Fifth Sundays we return to Luke chapters four and five, dealing with the beginning of Jesus' public ministry.

Czech Catholic Foundation of Texas (CCFT) Meeting and lunch, January 15, 10:30 a.m. at St. Michael's Catholic Church, Needville. Learn of our work to preserve, celebrate and perpetuate the Faith of Texas Czech immigrants. RSVP to (979)703-7411.